

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

VACCINES TO PREVENT HEPATITIS A

The purpose of this resolution is to revise the previous resolution to:

- 1) Incorporate a universal recommendation for the administration of hepatitis A vaccine*
- 2) Incorporate the use of hepatitis A vaccine for use in persons age 1 year and older for vaccines that are approved for this indication.*

VFC resolution 10/01-1 is repealed and replaced by the following:

Eligible Groups

All persons 1 year through 18 years of age*:

* Twinrix[®] is only indicated for persons 18 years and older. Only persons 18 years of age are eligible to receive Twinrix[®] through the VFC program. HAVRIX[®] and VAQTA[®] vaccine is licensed for use in persons 12 months of age and older.

Recommended Hepatitis A Schedule*

| <u>Vaccine**</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u># of Doses</u> | <u>Schedule***</u> |
|--|------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| HAVRIX [®] (Pediatric formulation) | 1 yr | 2 | 0, 6-12 months |
| VAQTA [®] (Pediatric formulation) | 1 yr | 2 | 0, 6-18 months |
| TWINRIX [®] (Adult formulation) | 18 yrs | 3 | 0, 1, 6 months |

* All children should receive hepatitis A vaccine at **1 year of age (i.e. 12-23 months)**. Vaccination should be completed according to the licensed schedules (See Recommended Schedule above) and integrated into the routine childhood vaccination schedule. Children who are not vaccinated by 2 years of age **can be vaccinated at subsequent visits**. States, counties, and communities with existing hepatitis A vaccination programs for children 2-18 years are encouraged to maintain these programs. In these areas, new efforts focused on routine vaccination of **1 year old** children should enhance, not replace, ongoing programs directed at a broader population of children. In areas without existing hepatitis A vaccination programs, catch-up vaccination of unvaccinated children aged 2-18 years can be considered. Such programs might especially be warranted in the context of rising incidence or ongoing outbreaks among children or adolescents.

** Use of brand names is not meant to preclude the use of other hepatitis A vaccines where appropriate.

*** 0 months represents timing of the initial dose; subsequent numbers represent months after the initial dose.

Dosage intervals

| Vaccine | Minimum Age (Dose 1) | Minimum interval between doses | | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Dose 1 to 2 | Dose 2 to 3 | Dose 1 to 3 |
| HAVRIX [®] (Pediatric formulation) | 12 months | 6 months | n/a | n/a |
| VAQTA [®] (Pediatric formulation) | 12 months | 6 months | n/a | n/a |
| TWINRIX [®] (Adult formulation) | 18 years | 1 month | 5 months | 6 months |

Recommended Dosages

Refer to product package inserts.

Contraindications and Precautions

The following conditions are contraindications to administration of Hepatitis A vaccine:

- 1. Allergy to vaccine components**
Anaphylactic reaction to the vaccine or a constituent of the vaccine.
- 2. Acute, moderate or severe illness with or without fever**

The following condition is a precaution to the administration of Hepatitis A vaccine:

- 1. Pregnancy**
The safety of hepatitis A vaccination during pregnancy has not been determined; however, because hepatitis A vaccine is produced from inactivated HAV, the theoretical risk to the developing fetus is expected to be low. The risk associated with vaccination should be weighed against the risk for hepatitis A in women who may be at high risk for exposure to HAV.

Adopted and Effective: October 27, 2005